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Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti

I. Introduction

1. By its resolution 2070 (2012), the Security Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) until 15 October 2013, and requested me to report on its implementation semi-annually and not later than 45 days prior to its expiration. The present report covers major developments from the issuance of my report of 8 March 2013 (S/2013/139) to 20 August 2013, and outlines activities undertaken by the Mission in line with its mandate under Security Council resolutions 1542 (2004), 1608 (2005), 1702 (2006), 1743 (2007), 1780 (2007), 1840 (2008), 1892 (2009), 1908 (2010), 1927 (2010), 1944 (2010), 2012 (2011) and 2070 (2012).

II. Political and security update

Political situation

2. During the reporting period, Haiti made strides in establishing a transitional Electoral Council and advancing the Government's "5 E" policy programme (employment, education, environment, energy and rule of law). However, continued delays in the holding of long-overdue elections and strained relations between the executive and legislative branches of government risked undermining progress in the stabilization process.

3. On the occasion of Labour Day on 1 May, the President of Haiti, Michel Joseph Martelly, stressed the importance of national solidarity and institutional strengthening to better prepare the country for foreign investment in support of job creation and socioeconomic development. Throughout the reporting period, President Martelly and Prime Minister Laurent Lamothe visited numerous departments to inaugurate Government programmes and projects implemented in line with the "5 E" policy of the Martelly administration. These projects, many of which are supported by donor funding, range from the construction of roads, schools, clinics and official buildings to support for agricultural production and reforestation.

4. In February 2013, former Presidents René Préval and Jean-Bertrand Aristide appeared in court in response to a summons regarding the case of the April 2000 killing of journalist Jean Léopold Dominique. Former President Jean-Claude

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Duvalier also appeared in court for a separate case. The fact that this did not lead to a breakdown of public order signalled a degree of stability in the political and security situation.

5. However, these gains were mitigated by the limited progress made in the organization of the overdue partial senatorial, municipal and local elections. After several months of protracted negotiations between the three branches of Government, the transitional Electoral Council (Collège transitoire du Conseil Electoral Permanent) was finally established on 19 April. Despite the executive branch's repeated public statements in favour of holding the elections as soon as possible, electoral preparations experienced significant delays. It took Parliament seven months to nominate its three members to the Electoral Council. The Electoral Council submitted the draft electoral law to the executive branch a month late, and the executive branch is yet to submit its revised draft to Parliament. These delays led a number of political and civil society actors to express scepticism about the likelihood that elections would be held in 2013. Partly to allay these concerns, Prime Minister Lamothe announced in late June the establishment of a joint Government-MINUSTAH-United Nations task force to expedite preparations.

6. In this context, several parliamentarians and political party and civil society representatives warned against further delays in holding elections, given the possible expiry of the term of a second third of the Senate in January 2014, as stipulated in the 2008 electoral law. The law specifies that the six-year term of senators elected when it came into effect will expire in 2014 because it was adopted with the expectation that elections would take place in 2008, as opposed to 2009. Many observers have thus argued that, according to the 1987 Constitution and the amended Constitution of 2011, which they consider the supreme law of the land to have precedence over the 2008 electoral law, senators are elected for a full term of six years. This means that the term of this tier of senators elected in 2009 should end in January 2015. Should there be no elections in 2013, and if those arguing in favour of the application of the 2008 electoral law were to prevail, the National Assembly (Senate and Chamber of Deputies) would not be able to function. Accordingly, on 2 July, the Senate voted unanimously to amend the 2008 electoral law to thwart the possibility that the Senate, and by extension the National Assembly, could become dysfunctional after January 2014. Following this motion in the Senate, the Chamber of Deputies announced that it would hold a similar vote, but has not done so to date.

7. Against the backdrop of mounting criticism over the delays in the organization of the elections, the relations between the executive branch and Parliament remained strained. While disagreement continued over the end date of the term of the senators elected in 2009, there was also controversy over allegations of lack of accountability in the Government's management of emergency funds allocated after Hurricane Sandy and allegations that certain Cabinet members hold a foreign citizenship. The resignation of three Cabinet ministers between April and late June fuelled speculation about the possibility of a third Cabinet reshuffle since Laurent Lamothe was sworn in as Prime Minister in May 2012.

8. Meanwhile, the continued presence of MINUSTAH in Haiti has been increasingly called into question by a number of political and civil society stakeholders. On 28 May, the Senate unanimously adopted a non-binding resolution calling for the progressive and orderly withdrawal of MINUSTAH by May 2014. A similar resolution had already been adopted by the Senate in 2011. My Special

Representative met on several occasions with President Martelly and Prime Minister Lamothe to explain the ongoing reduction of the MINUSTAH footprint and the Mission consolidation plan. Both leaders expressed support for a phased withdrawal of the Mission as the capacity of national institutions increased. A joint Government/MINUSTAH working group was established in April to monitor the gradual and orderly transfer of responsibilities to the Government.

Security assessment

9. The overall security situation remained relatively stable throughout the reporting period, with a decrease in both civil unrest and major crimes. Demonstrations did occur, linked mostly to socioeconomic grievances such as food insecurity and lack of basic services. The great majority of these protests were peaceful. After having peaked in October 2012, mostly because of rising food prices, the monthly number of demonstrations from March to June 2013 decreased by almost half, stabilizing at an average of 57 demonstrations per month. The Port-au-Prince metropolitan area (West Department) was most affected by protests.

10. Crime statistics collected by the national police and MINUSTAH showed a steady downward trend in homicides, with a monthly average of 61 homicides from March to June 2013, down from 90 in the same period in 2012. This improvement resulted in part from the frequent successful joint operations conducted by the Haitian National Police and MINUSTAH in the sensitive areas of Port-au-Prince, where approximately 83 per cent of all cases occurred during the reporting period, managing to curb the spike in gang violence witnessed previously. There was also a decrease in the number of kidnappings with a monthly average of nine cases. This is roughly 50 per cent below the monthly average during the previous reporting period and in line with the same period in 2012. The reported average monthly number of rape cases decreased from 45 to 31 during the same period in 2012.

11. A small group of alleged former armed forces elements made a single peaceful appearance in the western outskirts of the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area during Flag Day on 18 May 2013. There were, however, reports of local authorities employing, and sometimes supplying with arms, civilian elements for their own personal security or to control areas within their municipalities.

12. The performance of the national police continued to improve as it assumed increased responsibility for the provision of internal security, particularly in the four departments vacated by the MINUSTAH military component (Grand-Anse, Nippes, North-West and South). Nevertheless, MINUSTAH continued to play an important role in maintaining overall security and stability, particularly when robust action was needed to intervene in sensitive areas and in cases of violent civil unrest. In concert with the Haitian National Police, the Mission maintained its military and police presence in violence-prone areas and in some camps for internally displaced persons. From March to June 2013, the military and police components carried out 7,444 joint patrols with the Haitian National Police in Port-au-Prince and its vicinity, and 14,663 joint patrols in the rest of the country.

III. Humanitarian, recovery and economic update

13. Significant strides were made during the reporting period regarding the resettlement of people displaced by the 2010 earthquake. According to the

International Organization for Migration (IOM), between April and June 2013, 33 sites for internally displaced persons were closed and more than 34,000 people were relocated. Return programmes supported by the international community were responsible for 90 per cent of the reduction. As at 30 June 2013, some 279,000 internally displaced persons were living in 352 sites. This brings the total number of displaced persons who left the camps between 2010 and June 2013 to approximately 1,257,502, an overall reduction of 82 per cent.

14. Despite this progress in terms of resettlement, the protection of displaced persons remains a major concern. As humanitarian funding is rapidly decreasing, basic services in water, sanitation and hygiene in camps are declining faster than the number of displaced persons. Furthermore, 74 per cent of the remaining camps are located on private land whose owners are increasingly impatient to reclaim their property. At the end of June, 105 camps were under threat of eviction affecting approximately 75,000 people. Between January and June 2013, 1,177 households were forcefully evicted from four camps, often with police or other Government participation. Despite concerted efforts by the Humanitarian Coordinator and public statements by the Government that legal investigations were under way and protection for internally displaced persons had been increased, no progress on this front has been observed.

15. Significant humanitarian challenges concerning food insecurity continue to plague Haiti. Data provided by the Haitian National Coordination for Food Security revealed that 1.5 million Haitians face a food security and nutrition crisis. Food insecurity is a long-standing problem in Haiti, compounded recently by the damage caused by Hurricane Sandy in 2012, persistent regional droughts, the weak yield of the 2012 winter harvest and increases in food prices. While 700,000 of the 1.5 million people in need of life-saving support received assistance in the first half of 2013, 800,000 people remained unassisted. Predictions for a 2013 hurricane season of above average intensity raise concerns of further destruction not only of crops, but also of livelihoods and assets.

16. In April 2013, the International Monetary Fund assessed the macroeconomic situation in Haiti as stable, while noting continuous deep institutional and structural weaknesses and vulnerability to shocks in the global economy. In June 2013, the estimated growth rate for fiscal year 2012-2013 was lowered to 3.4 per cent, well below the earlier forecast of 6.5 per cent, mainly owing to a weak recovery in agricultural production after last year's hurricane season and droughts. Revenue collection in the first three trimesters of fiscal year 2012-2013 was below the budget targets owing to the weak performance of the tax and customs administrations. Declining international aid has added further urgency to the need to improve revenue collection. Government disbursement has equally failed to reach budgeted targets as a result of weaknesses in the execution rate of public investment.

IV. Activities of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti

Provision of support to State institutions

17. The rule-of-law indicators project facilitated by MINUSTAH has provided a baseline against which progress can be measured in strengthening key rule-of-law

institutions such as the police, justice and corrections systems. Following a national workshop on the results of the first round of data collection, the Ministry of Justice and Public Security incorporated most of the recommendations on rule-of-law reform into the Ministry action plan for the period 2013-2016. While the plan provides a vision for the development of justice in the country, there remains a need for a broader national justice development plan. Meanwhile, the Global Focal Point team on police, justice and corrections from United Nations Headquarters visited Haiti in April 2013 and, together with MINUSTAH and several United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, developed a country support plan for Haiti. The Mission has also provided inputs to the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) project on the rule of law (2013-2016) and continues to contribute towards joint implementation of the project, where required. In a related development, the United Nations Rule of Law Working Group coordination mechanism was launched on 6 August 2013 to follow up on the implementation of rule-of-law priorities outlined in the MINUSTAH consolidation plan.

18. Following the replacement by the Administration of nearly all locally elected authorities whose term had expired in 2011 with political appointees, MINUSTAH provided support to the newly appointed interim municipal councils. From 10 to 13 April 2013, MINUSTAH supported the Ministry of Interior and Territorial Communities in organizing 12 nation-wide induction workshops on municipal administration and budgetary procedures. In an effort to promote citizen participation at the communal level, from 3 April to 28 June MINUSTAH facilitated a series of town hall meetings in 124 municipalities. This initiative brought together 8,670 people (including 1,925 women) representing local stakeholders such as local authorities, representatives of political parties, civil society organizations and the media.

19. The Mission continued to provide technical support for the functioning of Parliament and to facilitate the adoption of the country's legislative agenda. On 4 July, Prime Minister Lamothe and the Presidents of both houses of Parliament agreed on a dozen priority bills to be analysed and adopted by Parliament during the second ordinary legislative session, which runs from June to September 2013. However, priority legislation such as the revised electoral law and the law on the functioning of political parties were not included.

20. In line with the programme of the Prime Minister, MINUSTAH helped the Haitian customs authority, under the Ministry of Economy and Finance, to strengthen management and revenue collection capacity at ports of entry. During the reporting period, the Mission provided technical advice on the development and adoption of a strategic plan for the rehabilitation of the Customs Surveillance Directorate.

21. Concerning disaster response preparedness, in May 2013, MINUSTAH, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the Department of Civil Protection organized a one-day workshop that was attended by 10 departmental technical coordinators and 10 MINUSTAH humanitarian focal points, in order to draft communal contingency plans to assist the most vulnerable municipalities. In addition, MINUSTAH constructed the national civil protection emergency call centre and the West Department emergency operation centre in Port-au-Prince, which accommodates approximately 50 civil protection staff.

Support for the political process

22. My Special Representative engaged intensively with Haiti's political decision makers to advocate for progress on the launch of the electoral process and the elaboration of a consensual legislative agenda for 2013. Concerning the elections, my Special Representative has made a number of proposals to President Martelly and the Presidents of the Senate and Chamber of Deputies on how to promote dialogue and ensure the adoption and promulgation of the electoral law. MINUSTAH also closely cooperated with Haiti's international partners, including the diplomatic corps in Port-au-Prince, in order to create momentum around the key priorities of the Government.

Support for the forthcoming elections

23. Upon the establishment of the transitional Electoral Council on 19 April, the newly appointed electoral councillors focused on the amendment of the 2008 electoral law with support from MINUSTAH. On 1 July, the Electoral Council forwarded that document to the executive branch. While the electoral law is yet to be submitted by the executive branch to Parliament, MINUSTAH has provided technical advice to the parliamentary bicameral commission on the electoral law and lobbied for the inclusion of the constitutional minimum 30 per cent female participation quota in the law. In April 2013, UNDP, in collaboration with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and MINUSTAH, organized a training session on gender and elections for 52 Electoral Council participants, while MINUSTAH supported the Council in drafting a new voter sensitization plan and provided planning assistance to the Director-General of the Council. MINUSTAH also provided logistical support to the National Identification Office and its mobile teams in order to register new voters and distribute national identification cards. UNDP continues to provide technical support to Electoral Council staff on the improvement of the electoral list, including with regard to the transmission of electoral tally sheets. Out of the $34 million provisional electoral budget managed by UNDP, $31.5 million has been pledged, including HTG 600 million (approximately $14 million) by the Government of Haiti, leaving a gap of only $2.4 million.

Military

24. During the reporting period, the military component of MINUSTAH continued to fulfil its primary mission of maintaining a secure and stable environment, in addition to enabling the delivery of humanitarian assistance and preparing for disaster response. Several security operations were conducted in accordance with the established procedure, whereby operations are led by the national police with support from the MINUSTAH police and military components and the Joint Mission Analysis Centre. These operations focused on disrupting gang and criminal activity, mainly in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area (West Department).

25. In addition to providing extensive engineering support to the Mission, MINUSTAH military engineering companies continued to engage on a wide range of Government priorities aimed at the improvement of living and security conditions for the population, which included road repair, well drilling, drainage and canal cleaning, water distribution and the erection of pre-fabricated units.

26. The security impact of the withdrawal of the MINUSTAH military component from four lower security risk departments appears to be minimal, although the situation could change with the onset of the forthcoming electoral period. Demonstrations caused by socioeconomic grievances have been mostly peaceful. According to the Mission threat assessment, illicit trafficking of drugs, weapons and human beings are the main law enforcement concerns. Plans are in place to air-lift quick-reaction forces, should an urgent need arise to reinforce the national police or the Mission police component in these four departments.

Police

27. Following the adoption of the 2012-2016 national police development plan in August 2012, MINUSTAH, with support from the United Nations country team, has worked with the Haitian National Police on the adoption of a joint implementation plan. The plan will refocus MINUSTAH support to police development efforts through a renewed strategy to co-locate United Nations police officers with the Haitian National Police, in accordance with a co-location directive signed by the General Director of the Haitian National Police and the MINUSTAH Police Commissioner. The plan will also include an assessment programme to jointly monitor progress in the implementation of the national police development plan with the newly created Haitian National Police strategic planning unit.

28. During the reporting period, the national police achieved significant results in fighting crime, most notably by arresting 42 suspected kidnappers. This improvement in performance is partly attributable to the support provided by MINUSTAH forces in the prevention of violence and crime and efforts to combat violence and crime, including through co-location, enhanced sharing of information and increased joint operations.

29. In order to achieve the objective of a minimum of 15,000 active police officers by 2016, the twenty-fourth promotion started classes on 1 April 2013, with 1,102 cadets (including 116 women) who will graduate from the police school in November 2013. This new promotion will augment the number of active police officers to approximately 11,200. The first steps of the recruitment plan for the twenty-fifth promotion have already been taken to ensure a swift transition between the two promotions. Meanwhile, 42 senior officers, including 5 women, began a six-month police commissioner training programme at the national police academy on 15 April 2013. A second group is expected to commence similar training starting in November 2013. Notwithstanding the important contributions by bilateral partners to police development, funding is still insufficient for all targets of the plan to be achieved. There is a lack of qualified MINUSTAH police and civilian expertise to support the technical advisory services required for the development of the Haitian National Police in the areas of personnel, budget and finance, procurement and supply, legal affairs, logistics management, monitoring and evaluation, project management, registry and archives, forensics and information technology. To overcome this shortfall, all efforts should be made to ensure that international officers deployed have the requisite profiles and specialized skill sets. Where specialized police personnel cannot be provided by police-contributing countries, or where continuity is particularly important, civilian personnel should be recruited through the normal recruitment process or seconded by Member States. The generous assistance of the international community will remain critical to enabling the national police to meet major benchmarks by 2016.

30. Joint vetting activities by the national police and MINUSTAH aimed at completing the certification of police officers continued nationwide. To date, 4,736 cases have been fully reviewed, resulting in the certification of 4,606 officers, while 130 were not recommended. Among the latter, 79 officers were notified of their dismissal during the previous reporting period and continued to exercise their right of appeal. Vetting continued for the remaining national police personnel, with 2,770 ongoing cases and 5,410 cases that have yet to be reviewed. In an effort to complete the background checks of new cadets before they graduate in line with the provisions of the development plan, discussions are ongoing concerning the creation of a new candidate vetting unit within the Inspectorate General.

31. In an effort to improve the oversight capacity of the Inspectorate General within the national police, a strategic plan for capacity-building was developed that aims to overcome current challenges impairing the independence and effectiveness of the oversight body, including weak staffing, a shortage of equipment, insufficient specialized training and limited financial resources.

Protection of vulnerable groups

32. The MINUSTAH military and police components maintained their presence in camps for the internally displaced and in fragile, urban communities prone to crime where women and children are vulnerable to sexual and gender-based violence. The Haitian National Police, with the support of MINUSTAH, has carried out a series of community-oriented policing programmes to improve the protection of the population and to foster public trust in the national police. Of the remaining 352 sites for internally displaced persons, three high-risk camps have been secured by a 24-hour MINUSTAH security presence (Jean-Marie-Vincent, Pétion-Ville Club and Carradeux) and 24 additional camps through daily patrols. The remaining sites were subject to random patrols. During the reporting period, the military and police components conducted 7,952 patrols in camps for internally displaced persons in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area.

Community violence reduction

33. Under its programme to reduce community violence, MINUSTAH continued to conduct stabilization initiatives in fragile urban communities, addressing high youth unemployment, weak security institutions and criminal gang activities. The Mission tackled those issues by supporting large-scale, labour-intensive environmental projects, professional skills training and income-generating activities to provide former gang members, at-risk young people and vulnerable groups with socioeconomic alternatives to crime and violence. The Mission completed 57 projects under the 2011-2012 budget and initiated 48 new projects, valued at $8 million, under the 2012-2013 budget. The latter include 23 labour-intensive projects focusing on watershed management, city infrastructure and canal rehabilitation that provide temporary employment to an estimated 20,000 young people. During the reporting period, professional training and income-generating projects reached 1,600 beneficiaries. Furthermore, in partnership with the national authorities and civil society organizations, MINUSTAH conducted 90 anti-violence sensitization sessions in historically violent neighbourhoods, reaching over 32,500 people. The Community Violence Reduction programme is concentrating its range of projects to further assist in the Mission's increased focus on the rule of law in the more challenging and fragile areas of the country.

Justice

34. During the reporting period, the Superior Council of the Judiciary took steps to consolidate its authority over the judiciary in an effort to significantly reduce political interference in judicial affairs. In particular, with support from MINUSTAH, the Superior Council has begun to take an active interest in the vetting of judges before they are appointed; has taken steps to operationalize parts of its administrative structures; and has issued circulars requiring courts to report regularly on the number of cases decided and the causes of pretrial detention, as well as to bring judges of the peace — the lowest level of the judiciary — under the authority of the courts, as opposed to under the prosecutors (who report to the Ministry of Justice and Public Security). Nevertheless, there continue to be reports concerning the appointment of judges of the peace without following legal requirements.

35. MINUSTAH has supported and participated in a working group developing a revised criminal code and criminal procedure code. Drafts of both codes have been approved by the Council of Government and are awaiting approval of the Council of Ministers before being submitted to Parliament, where it is expected that further revisions will be made before the codes are adopted.

Corrections

36. MINUSTAH provided technical support to the prison administration to develop the national strategic development plan for prisons (2013-2016). MINUSTAH capacity-building support has continued to improve the prison registrar system by ensuring that each detainee is registered, thus enabling swifter identification of irregular detention cases for release by the judicial authorities.

37. MINUSTAH has supported the prison administration in building partnerships with local hospitals and national and international non-governmental organizations to improve prison health services. These efforts, combined with the mentoring and training of prison medical staff through the co-location of MINUSTAH Government-provided personnel, have contributed to reducing the inmate death rate (from 1.32 to 0.49 per cent) and controlling the spread of cholera and tuberculosis. In close collaboration with the Ministry of Justice, MINUSTAH continues to support four legal aid offices in Port-au-Prince that have so far processed 5,000 cases. These offices provide legal representation to arrested individuals and inmates at the time of the court hearing. As a result, a significant number of arrestees have not entered into the prison system and cases pending for a long period of time have been resolved. As a result of MINUSTAH advocacy work, since March 2013, 550 prisoners in illegal pretrial detention have been released. Despite this progress, many detainees still lack legal documentation related to their court cases.

Human rights

38. The Mission continued to monitor and report on the human rights situation in Haiti and assist the Haitian authorities and civil society through capacity-building activities. The issuance on 13 May of a decree establishing the interministerial commission on human rights was one of the most notable developments during the reporting period. The commission could contribute significantly to Haiti's ratification of and compliance with international human rights treaties. It could also accelerate the implementation of the recommendations accepted by Haiti in the

context of the universal periodic review. Notwithstanding this progress, key challenges and systemic deficiencies remain, in particular with regard to the excessive use of force by the national police and the related insufficient treatment of reported cases by the Inspectorate General of the Haitian National Police. Other issues of concern include forced evictions from camps for internally displaced persons; prison overcrowding; child slavery; extended periods of pretrial detention; the hiring of civilians to perform police duties; and the statelessness of persons of Haitian descent arriving in Haiti without any civil status documentation. The efforts of an interministerial group working on this matter are a fundamental contribution to addressing the myriad of issues related to statelessness prevalent in Haiti. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has provided awareness-raising activities and will extend technical assistance to ensure compliance with international legal standards.

39. In a positive development, several cases concerning past serious human rights violations have been initiated or revived. MINUSTAH took note of the hearings in the appellate court in the case against former President Jean-Claude Duvalier and the summoning of former Presidents René Préval and Jean-Bertrand Aristide as witnesses in the investigation of the case concerning the murder of journalist Jean Léopold Dominique in 2000. Despite these advances, MINUSTAH continued to document cases that raise doubts about the independence of the judiciary and demonstrate the persistence of impunity in Haiti. In the case concerning the April 2012 murder of police officer Walky Calixte, a parliamentary commission was mandated to examine the request of the investigating judge to lift the immunity of two parliamentarians allegedly involved in the case. On 18 June, the commission recommended that the Chamber of Deputies refrain from lifting the immunity. The final decision of the Chamber of Deputies on this matter was still pending at the end of the reporting period.

Gender

40. Sexual and gender-based violence remains a concern. The Mission has noted an apparent lack of diligence on behalf of police and judicial authorities in treating such cases, leading to a high degree of impunity. To address this situation, the MINUSTAH police component has worked closely with United Nations agencies such as UNHCR and the United Nations Population Fund to support survivors of gender-based violence. The MINUSTAH police component has also participated in a sensitization programme to train national police officers to prevent and respond to allegations of sexual and gender-based violence. MINUSTAH has trained 39 national police trainers, who in turn have trained 737 national police officers in the field. The curriculum has also been integrated into the basic training provided at the police school in Port-au-Prince.

41. MINUSTAH provided technical and financial support for the organization of an advocacy workshop by the Chamber of Deputies to promote the participation of women in public life, in line with the amended Constitution. The process led to the drafting and submission of joint proposals to the Electoral Council on the integration of the Constitution's minimum quota of 30 per cent representation of women in the electoral law. It also resulted in the establishment of a multi-sectoral technical committee on the promotion of women's political participation.

Child protection

42. During the reporting period, MINUSTAH received reports of 261 incidents against minors, including 173 cases related to sexual violence (138 cases of rape, 15 cases of gang rape, 5 cases of attempted rape, 2 cases of child prostitution and 13 cases of sexual assault); 7 cases of homicide; 16 cases of kidnapping; 4 cases of use of children by armed gangs; 22 cases of physical assault; 7 cases of trafficking of children; and 32 cases of domestic mistreatment. The reports were shared weekly with the national police and the Brigade for the Protection of Minors for follow-up. In its effort to reinforce the national child protection system, MINUSTAH supported the training, funded by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), of 10 police trainers from the national police on child rights and child protection who will carry out all child protection-related activities at the National Police Academy. In order to improve the legal framework governing child protection, MINUSTAH, UNICEF and IOM are closely working with national stakeholders to advocate for the adoption by Parliament of the law on human trafficking, as well as the law on the adoption of children, endorsed by the Senate in May 2013.

HIV/AIDS

43. Eleven United Nations agencies formed a joint team to work on four strategic areas of the national AIDS programme. New estimates published by the Ministry of Public Health and Population in March 2013 show that new HIV infections among young persons between the ages of 15 and 24 had fallen by 21 per cent during the period 2011-2013. Concerning mother-to-child transmission, new infections fell by 51 per cent during the period 2011-2012. During the reporting period, MINUSTAH contributed to a sensitization campaign during an HIV-testing promotion day, resulting in nearly 1,000 people being tested for HIV.

Quick-impact projects

44. During the reporting period, MINUSTAH fully allocated the 2012-2013 budget of $5 million for 138 quick-impact projects. These projects were funded in accordance with the Mission's established priorities, in partnership with Haitian authorities and civil society. They included: measures to contain the cholera epidemic and preventing other water-borne diseases (38 projects); enhancement of safety and security in impoverished and insecure areas through the installation of public solar lighting (18 projects); support to rule-of-law institutions and good governance (44 projects); and rehabilitation of other public infrastructure and services (30 projects). The remaining eight projects were implemented in the areas of agriculture and environmental protection.

Conduct and discipline

45. The Conduct and Discipline Unit continued to implement the integrated strategy to prevent misconduct through training sessions for 1,074 MINUSTAH personnel. Specific training of trainers on the prevention of misconduct, in particular sexual exploitation and abuse, was also delivered to military and police commanders and focal points. The Mission leadership consistently delivered a strong message to all staff members to maintain the highest standards of conduct at all times, both inside and outside the Mission area, while on duty and off duty.

Public information and outreach

46. During the reporting period, MINUSTAH used public information as a strategic tool in order to support the implementation of its mandate. Public information efforts continued through international and national media relations and regular press conferences, in addition to timely issuance of press releases and other products, including the Mission radio, the newly upgraded website, live streaming, social media and television products. The Mission used its media output for outreach on cholera prevention and disaster and hurricane season preparedness and its work to strengthen the national police and rule-of-law institutions. MINUSTAH aimed much of its public information efforts at young persons living in disenfranchised areas of Port-au-Prince and the regions. In this regard, the Mission launched a nationwide anti-violence campaign related to citizen participation, non-violence and human rights, including measures to increase the participation of women and persons living with disabilities into public life and in the forthcoming electoral process.

V. Humanitarian, recovery and development activities

Coordination between the Mission and the United Nations country team

47. The United Nations country team continued to increase joint programming in alignment with the Government-endorsed United Nations integrated strategic framework. Of the current seven joint programmes, two are funded by the Haiti Reconstruction Fund (HRF) through the United Nations multi-partner trust fund. As at 30 June 2013, the overall disbursement rate of United Nations HRF-funded projects was 77.5 per cent.

48. Following the launch of Haiti's aid coordination framework during the previous reporting period, the Government, with United Nations support, held the first international meeting of the Committee on Aid Effectiveness in May 2013. At that high-level meeting, the Government and its partners committed to a series of measures to foster greater alignment of international assistance with national priorities, increase transparency and strengthen mutual accountability. The Ministry of Planning and External Cooperation is currently implementing a short-term road map to support the effective functioning of sectoral and thematic coordination tables with the participation of the national authorities, the donor community and civil society.

49. Following a mission to Haiti in April 2013, the Political Champions for Disaster Resilience group invited the Prime Minister to become a member of the group and attend their next meeting in September 2013. The Political Champions group aims to mobilize increased attention and resources in favour of disaster resilience in at-risk countries such as Haiti, and consists of senior representatives of leading international and national institutions, including the Caribbean Community, UNDP, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, UNICEF, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States Agency for International Development, the World Bank and the European Commission.

United Nations ongoing efforts to eliminate the cholera epidemic

50. According to the Ministry of Public Health and Population, as at 29 June 2013, the cholera epidemic had caused the deaths of 8,173 persons and infected 664,282, with 258 deaths and 28,800 infections in the first six months of 2013. The Pan American Health Organization has forecast 118,000 infections in 2013, up from 101,000 in 2012. In June 2013, the nation-wide case fatality rate stood at 1.18 per cent, down from a high of 2.4 per cent in November 2010. The United Nations has continued to support the Government efforts to prevent and treat the disease in line with the initiative of the Secretary-General to support the national plan for the elimination of cholera, launched in February 2013. The World Health Organization/ Pan American Health Organization and UNICEF have worked with the Ministry of Public Health and Population, the Department for Water and Hygiene and partners to ensure an adequate response to all cholera outbreaks. The United Nations also trained health staff and rehabilitated and built health and water and sanitation infrastructure, including hospitals, cholera treatment centres, water points, wells and oral rehydration points in internally displaced persons camps and other at-risk locations. A cholera vaccination campaign, with vaccines provided by UNICEF, managed by the Ministry of Public Health and Population, was carried out to immunize approximately 112,000 people in the highest risk areas.

51. The budget of the national plan for the elimination of cholera amounts to $443.7 million for the period 2013-2015. UNICEF, following a request of the Government of Haiti, is in the process of setting up a national fund that will allow for the disbursement of cholera funds. The Regional Coalition for Water and Sanitation to Eliminate Cholera in the Island of Hispaniola, with the Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Community-based Medicine and Lessons from Haiti, convened a donor meeting in Washington, D.C. on 31 May, where more than $29.1 million was pledged, bringing total pledges in support of the national plan to $209.4 million. Yet, the most urgent needs for the forthcoming hurricane season remain underfunded. The cholera portion of the 2013 humanitarian action plan, which directly supports the national plan, has received only $11.2 million of the $40 million requirement, including pledges of $1.5 million from the Central Emergency Response Fund and $1 million from UNDP for immediate cholera response. Since 2012, the number of humanitarian organizations engaged in cholera response has decreased by more than half, as have medical stocks required to treat the projected caseload in the remainder of 2013.

VI. Update on the drawdown and reconfiguration of the Mission

52. In accordance with Security Council resolution 2070 (2012), the military and police components completed the mandated reduction of their personnel during the reporting period. By 30 June 2013, a total of 1,070 military personnel had been withdrawn, resulting in a total authorized strength of 6,270 troops. Likewise, the number of MINUSTAH police has been reduced by 640 to an authorized strength of 2,601 officers, including 50 correction officers.

53. The Mission's consolidation has led to the further reconfiguration of the military component into five security hubs and to the reduction of the Mission Support component to four support offices. Formed police units have been redeployed to ensure maximum coverage and prevent the occurrence of security

vacuums. The ongoing reconfiguration of MINUSTAH has also resulted in the downscaling of 10 regional headquarters to 5 regional offices and 5 smaller departmental offices, with a view to further consolidating the latter in fiscal year 2015-2016.

54. As the national police training programme is proceeding according to plan and the security situation has shown signs of progressive improvement, in line with the consolidation plan 2013-2016 for MINUSTAH included in the annex to my report to the Security Council of 8 March 2013 (S/2013/139), I recommend that the Security Council consider a further reduction of the Mission authorized military strength from 6,270 to 5,021 through a balanced withdrawal of 1,249 infantry and engineering personnel by June 2014. This 15 per cent reduction in the Mission uniformed strength would coincide with current troop rotation schedules and may also take into account the possible holding of long-awaited elections.

VII. Financial implications

55. By its resolution 67/275 of 28 June 2013, the General Assembly appropriated the amount of $609,187,500 for the maintenance of MINUSTAH for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014. Should the Security Council decide to extend the mandate of MINUSTAH beyond 15 October 2013, the cost of maintaining the Mission would be limited to the amounts approved by the General Assembly. As at 2 August 2013, unpaid assessed contributions to the Special Account for MINUSTAH amounted to $226.8 million. The total outstanding assessed contributions for all peacekeeping operations as at that date amounted to $4,109.2 million. As at 2 August 2013, amounts owed to troop- and formed police contributors to MINUSTAH totalled $17.8 million. Reimbursements of troop and contingent-owned equipment costs have been made for the period up to 30 April 2013 and 31 December 2012, respectively, in accordance with the quarterly payment schedule.

VIII. Observations

56. The steps taken by the Martelly administration to project a new image of Haiti abroad in a bid to attract foreign investments are indicators of a genuine desire to move forward with socioeconomic development. The Government's efforts have resulted in a significant increase in economic partnerships and have also generated renewed hope concerning Haiti's ability to achieve development and growth. These efforts are commendable and must be sustained, especially since Haiti's economic growth has not been as robust as initially forecast during the past two years.

57. Likewise, President Martelly's assumption of the six-month rotating chairmanship of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) during 2013 has opened a new chapter in Haiti's engagement with the broader region. Haiti's commitment to regional cooperation through CARICOM in matters of security, financial reform and economic growth could result in tangible benefits in terms of stability and development for the Haitian people, the majority of whom continue to face unemployment and poverty.

58. Nevertheless, the democratic process in Haiti remains vulnerable to setbacks linked to political instability and infighting between the branches of government. I am deeply concerned about the continued delay in the holding of the partial senatorial, municipal and local elections, which stems in part from the protracted negotiations between the executive branch and Parliament on the establishment of the Electoral Council and the adoption and promulgation of the electoral law. I urge the political leaders of Haiti to engage in a constructive dialogue to reach a minimum political consensus on the holding of the elections as soon as possible, particularly as the next set of elections is due in late 2014, for another tier of the Senate and for the Chamber of Deputies.

59. Such an agreement is of paramount importance to avert the negative impact on democratic governance of an institutional vacuum following the end of term of 10 senators in May 2012, and the possible expiry of the terms of a second tier of senators in January 2014. If senatorial elections are not held by then, the resulting possible dissolution of the Senate, and by extension of the National Assembly, would constitute a significant setback to the democratic process, which Haiti cannot afford. A minimum consensus should also include agreement on an agenda of key legislative priorities aimed at promoting institution-building, safeguarding investment, protecting human rights and putting an end to the prevailing culture of impunity. My Special Representative has been actively promoting political dialogue among Haiti's political stakeholders and will continue to do so.

60. In the meantime, it is vital that the Government continue to work on multiple fronts to make progress towards meeting the stabilization benchmarks jointly agreed with MINUSTAH, which are outlined in my previous report to the Security Council (S/2013/139). The establishment of an Electoral Council, a task force on the elections and the Government pledge to contribute nearly half of the electoral budget are welcome. Adequate funding should be allocated from the national budget to cover the operational costs of the Electoral Council in order to build the management, the administrative and the logistical capabilities of the electoral body. As before, the United Nations stands ready to support the electoral process.

61. The strengthening of the national police is another key stabilization benchmark. The continued commitment of the Government and Member States is required to ensure that the appropriate funding is made available to support a professional, reliable and accountable police force. I welcome the reinvigorated recruitment and training programme of the national police, which is a key prerequisite to meet the target of 15,000 active officers by 2016. In order to ensure the continued and sustainable growth of the national police, including an increased presence in the regions, I encourage the Government to address with greater focus the growing budgetary needs of the institution and the need to strengthen its administrative and management capacity. I urge the senior leadership of the national police, with MINUSTAH support, to spare no effort in strengthening the Inspectorate General to ensure the accountability and the internal discipline of the institution.

62. I encourage the Government to continue to strengthen the country's rule-of-law institutions, which provide the safeguards required to attract investment and promote economic partnerships and development. Although the oversight and accountability mechanisms provided for in the Constitution have been established, it is critical that the Government and its international partners continue to build the

capacity of those institutions and put an end to the pervasive culture of impunity that continues to hinder progress in Haiti. To that end, it is critical that key rule-of-law institutions, such as the national police, the Superior Council of the Judiciary and the Anti-Corruption Unit, be allowed to operate independently. Following the expiration, on 18 July, of the term of the Superior Court of Auditors and Administrative Disputes, I urge the swift nomination of new members to this vital oversight body.

63. In addition to the need for greater political stability and institutional integrity and development, it is critically important for Haiti and the international community to redouble efforts to improve the current humanitarian situation, in particular regarding the ongoing cholera epidemic. Eradicating cholera in Haiti is a complex and challenging task requiring a long-term commitment on the part of Haiti and international donors. I therefore call on Member States to ensure that the funds and expertise required for this long-term development effort are provided.

64. While challenges remain, the progress made in the stabilization of Haiti since the initial deployment of MINUSTAH in 2004 has been considerable. Given recent achievements and the evolution of the challenges facing Haiti, the ongoing reconfiguration of MINUSTAH should continue. Nine years after its initial deployment, it is worth examining whether a large multidimensional peacekeeping operation is still the most appropriate form of international support to Haiti. I intend to engage with the Government of Haiti and Member States to explore the best way for the United Nations to continue contributing to greater stability and development in the country. In doing so, the option of replacing MINUSTAH with a smaller, more focused assistance Mission by 2016 will be explored and proposals on the way forward will be included in my next report to the Security Council in March 2014. In the meantime, reiterating my intention to continue to consolidate the presence of the Mission, I recommend that the Security Council extend the mandate of the Mission for an additional year, until 15 October 2014.

65. In conclusion, I would like to thank my outgoing Acting Special Representative, Nigel Fisher, for his service in support of Haiti. I also wish to welcome my new Special Representative, Sandra Honoré, who has assumed responsibility for the Mission during this crucial period in the national stabilization process and at a time when the Mission is undergoing reconfiguration. Lastly, I should like to thank the men and women of MINUSTAH, troop-contributing countries, police-contributing countries, the United Nations country team and key partners for their continued dedication and commitment to stability and development in Haiti.

Annex I

Progress in the consolidation plan 2013-2016 for the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti

1. In my previous report to the Security Council (S/2013/139), I outlined the MINUSTAH consolidation plan. I noted that the plan was developed in consultation with the Government and international partners and in collaboration with the United Nations country team. My Special Representative consulted with several troop-contributing countries who expressed their support for the consolidation plan and their commitment to the process of stabilization, democratic consolidation and strengthening of the rule of law in Haiti. While the Mission will continue to assist the Government with the maintenance of security and political stability, the plan identifies four stabilization benchmarks that constitute the framework of the operationalization of the consolidation of the Mission.

2. The present annex provides an update on progress made during the reporting period towards the achievement of the four stabilization benchmarks: development of the Haitian police capacity; building of Haitian electoral capacity; rule of law and human rights; and progress on key governance issues.

Core objectives

Police development

3. MINUSTAH focused its support to augment Haitian national police capacity in line with the 2012-2016 development plan as follows:

- The twenty-fourth promotion comprising 1,102 cadets (including 116 women) began in April 2013 and is scheduled to be completed by November 2013; preparations for the twenty-fifth promotion are under way
- 52 infrastructure projects to improve police facilities have been financed by the Government and its international partners; 17 projects have been completed, 21 are under way; and 14 are to be launched
- Development of a database to track and manage institutional assets is ongoing
- The Government completed the procurement process for new weapons for all national police officers in April 2013; MINUSTAH is helping to register each pistol in a database
- The 2013-2016 strategic plan for capacity-building of the judicial police directorate has been drafted and is pending final approval .
- In November 2013, graduation of the twenty-fourth promotion will provide personnel for an increase in the geographic coverage of the national police.

Electoral capacity-building

4. The Mission objective is to create the conditions that will allow the Government of Haiti to assume full responsibility for the electoral process following the next presidential elections, which are due in 2015. To that end, the following actions have been taken:

- A transitional Electoral Council was established on 19 April 2013
- On 24 June 2013, the Prime Minister established a governmental task force with representatives from the Electoral Council, MINUSTAH, UNDP and various ministries involved in the electoral process, in order to accelerate preparations for the elections
- The Electoral Council Director General and councillors are working on general electoral planning and the electoral calendar
- The Government of Haiti has committed HTG 600 million (approximately $14 million) to the $34 million provisional electoral budget; HTG 300 million (approximately $7 million) has been deposited into the UNDP Basket Fund
- The Electoral Council drafted and submitted on 1 July to the executive branch a new electoral law including amendments that, if adopted, could reduce the cost of elections.

Rule of law and human rights

5. MINUSTAH is focusing its activities on supporting the Government in its efforts to strengthen rule-of-law accountability and oversight mechanisms and to advance crucial legislative reform. Following are examples of such activities:

- 4,736 Haitian National Police vetting cases have been completed; 4,606 officers have been certified, while 130 were not recommended; vetting continues for the remaining national police personnel
- The inter-ministerial commission on human rights was established on 13 May
- The Office of the Ombudsperson has become increasingly operational, with funding allocated in the national budget and with at least one staff member deployed to each department
- Limited progress in the operational capacity of the Inspectorate General of the Haitian National Police with 19 new cases of human rights violations committed by police officers submitted.

Key governance issues

6. The Mission objective is to promote dialogue on a minimum political consensus regarding elections and the legislative agenda and support the strengthening of State institutions at the central and local levels. To that end, the following actions have been taken:

- 140 municipal 2013-2014 budgets have been completed
- Town hall meetings have been held in 124 municipalities to promote citizen participation at the communal level
- National stakeholders have engaged in discussions for a constitutional reform project to reduce excessive frequency of elections under the amended Constitution of 1987.

Annex II

United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti: countries providing military staff and contingents (personnel on the ground as at 31 July 2013)

Country	Staff officers		Troops		Total
	Females	Males	Females	Males	
Argentina		11	38	523	572
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)		3	18	187	208
Brazil		18	16	1 369[a]	1 403[b]
Canada		4		34	38
Chile		3	29	432	464
Ecuador		1	1	65	67
France	1	2			3
Guatemala		5	13	119	137
Indonesia		2		167	169
Jordan		10		242	252
Nepal		13	10	340	363
Paraguay		3	6	154	163
Peru		8	9	357	374
Philippines		2	6	150	158
Republic of Korea		2			2
Sri Lanka		13		850	863
United States of America	2	7			9
Uruguay		10	40	903	953
Total	**3**	**117**	**186**	**5 892**	**6 198**

[a] Including one Bolivian attached to the Brazilian contingent.
[b] The Force Commander is employed on a United Nations contract and hence is not reflected in the troop strength.

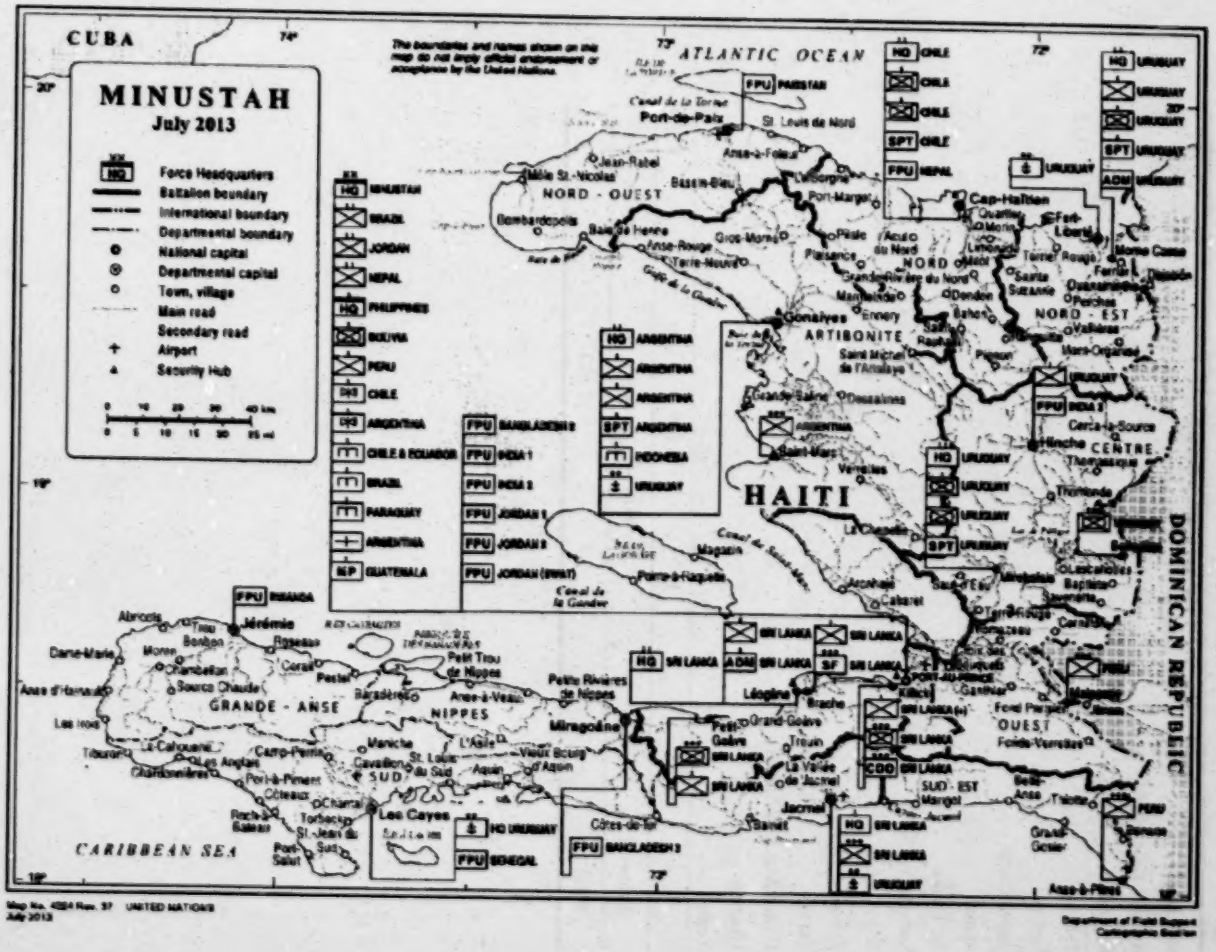
Annex III

United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti: composition and strength of the police (personnel on the ground as at 31 July 2013)

	Number of United Nations police		*Number of formed police units*	
Country	*Female*	*Male*	*Female*	*Male*
Argentina	1	12	–	–
Bangladesh	–	3	106	213
Benin	1	41	–	–
Brazil	2	3	–	–
Burkina Faso	21	32	–	–
Burundi	8	32	–	–
Cameroon	4	33	–	–
Canada	9	78	–	–
Central African Republic	–	3	–	–
Chad	–	3	–	–
Chile	3	11	–	–
China	–	–	–	–
Colombia	2	19	–	–
Côte d'Ivoire	6	117	–	–
Croatia	–	3	–	–
Egypt	–	23	–	–
El Salvador	1	6	–	–
France	2	28	–	–
Grenada	–	–	–	–
Guinea	–	19	–	–
India	–	–	–	438
Indonesia	–	4	–	–
Jamaica	–	–	–	–
Jordan	–	21	–	320
Kyrgyzstan	–	–	–	–
Lithuania	–	–	–	–
Madagascar	–	–	–	–
Mali	2	39	–	–
Nepal	1	4	13	127
Niger	12	56	–	–
Nigeria	1	–	–	–
Norway	4	2	–	–
Pakistan	–	7	–	140
Philippines	3	17	–	–

Country	Number of United Nations police		Number of formed police units	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
Romania	3	15	–	–
Russian Federation	1	4	–	–
Rwanda	7	13	14	126
Senegal	2	9	7	132
Serbia	–	5	–	–
Sierra Leone	–	–	–	–
Spain	1	7	–	–
Sri Lanka	2	11	–	–
Sweden	–	–	–	–
Togo	–	2	–	–
Tunisia	1	13	–	–
Turkey	–	17	–	–
United States of America	7	38	–	–
Uruguay	–	4	–	–
Yemen	–	25	–	–
	107	779	140	1 496
Subtotal	**886**		**1 636**	
Total	**2 522**			

MINUSTAH map as at July 2013



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